**2 Peter 2: False teachers who destroy the walk of believers**

**Main: False teachers ruin lives**

**I. False teachers with destructive teachings - 1 Peter 2:1-3**

* **2:1-3: A general summary of the passage**
* **False prophets then, false teachers now**
* **“Among you” … “secretly” … “destructive heresies (doctrines)”**
* **“Destructive” has overtones of sexual immorality in chapter 2**
* **The Lord who bought them 1 Jn. 2:1-2; Jn. 1:29; 2 Cor. 5:19; 1 Tim. 2:4-6**
* **Jesus died for the sins of everyone; He “bought” them**
* **By shedding His blood, He bought all and has a right to obedience**
* **The “Lord” = “Despot” = One who has absolute power - Acts 4:24**
* **His Lordship is not something that anyone can grant to, or withhold from, God’s exalted Son. Rejecting His lordship comes with great risk.**
* **But, it is not our response to His lordship that brings eternal life, but our response of faith in His promise of eternal life**

**II. The Lord knows how to judge and how to deliver - 2:4-9**

**The Lord knows how to deliver the righteous from catastrophic disaster; from the devastation that falls on the world; The rapture delivers believers from wrath! 1 Thess. 4:16-17 on what, 1 Thess. 5:1-11 on when.**

**Two great truths emerge:**

**1) There will come a Day of Judgment for all sinful creatures, demons, humans.**

**2) The ones who are currently in an intermediate state, awaiting final judgment, are currently undergoing punishment**

* **Angels who intermarried**
* **Those who died in the flood**
* **The unbelievers from Sodom and Gomorrah**

**They are not in “soul sleep” undergoing judgment. They have been undergoing punishment for thousands of years.**

* **A final day of judgment is coming**
* **Those in intermediate state will face it**

**III. Who are these guys? 2:10-2:17**

* **2:12 “Brute beasts” They act like animals; Compare with 2 Pet. 2:22**
* **The issue of “wrath” in 2 Peter 2 (Rom. 1:18-32 and Prov. 1:20-33) They will “utterly perish in their own corruption”; delivered over to their sin**
* **Again, the practical behavioral results are emphasized here**
* **2:13 - “Feast with you”: The Lord’s Supper (actual meal 1 Cor. 11)**
* **Living a lie: “carousing in the own deception”**
* **False teachers passing themselves off as Christians, saying what others wanted them to say (Rev. 2:2, 15, 20)**
* **“Eyes full of adultery”: Lusting after the women they are worshipping with**

**IV. False teachers ruining the walk of believers - 2:18-22**

**The focus is on behavior, not nature (2 Peter 2:12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21-22).**

 **He *certainly* does not mean it would have been better for them to not have had eternal life! They still have life!**

**These are young believers who have grown and “escaped” from enslaving sin. The false teachers and their teaching entangle them again in sin.**

**When a Christian grows and experiences freedom and then falls away, it is not uncommon that their condition after the fall is practically, functionally worse. Often, the guilt, pain, and self-hatred can drive a person to bury it under a load of rebellion and sin. Reaching them becomes very difficult.**

**The text of 2:18-22**